can save a sufficient amount to meet an increment to the peons. Looking at the receipt side, we get more from Anchal than we spend over it. The Anchal is to bring Rs. 72,000 in 1100, while we spend Rs. 68,900 only. There is thus a saving of about Rs. 3,000. If we have any saving, it may be utilised for increasing the pay of the peons.

President.— They deserve every encouragement at the hands of the Government. In Travancore, the Department works at a loss of Rs. 6,000.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN (*Ezhuva South*).

It is in the mofussil parts that delay, on account of non-delivery of letters, occurs. I understand that in some places there is delivery only once or twice in a week. I think it would be desirable, if that is increased to three times a week or a little more. In towns, this difficulty is not felt as much as in villages.

Mr. S. F. NUNEZ (*Anglo-Indians*).

If the assurance asked for is given, I shall be fully satisfied.

President:—It has already been given.

The motion was withdrawn with the permission of the Council, and the whole amount demanded was allotted.

DEMAND XIII—General Administration.
Rs. 1·08 lakhs.

Motion Nos. 41—44.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON (*Cranganur*).

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for Lump provision for revision of establishment by one rupee.

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VADAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for Lump provision for revision of establishment by Rs. 1,500.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,562 for Legislative Council by one rupee.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,562 for Legislative Council by one rupee.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

Sir, I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 61,871 under General Administration. The figures given in the budget show that there is not much increase as compared with the figures of the previous year. The increase is mainly due to the formation of the Legislative Council. The amount, Rs. 17,562, in the budget estimate for 1101 shows an increase on that of the revised estimate of 1100, which comes to Rs. 7,000. This year that provision was not much made use of. This is the chief reason for the increased amount provided for 1101.

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA (*Landlords*).

There is a lump provision of Rs. 2,000 for revision of establishment.

Mr. M. KRISHNA MENON (*Vyttila*).

What we want to know is, Sir, whether any revision has been proposed, or whether there is to be any revision in the future.

President.—The Legislative Council Secretary submitted a scheme about our requirements. I have not sanctioned most of the proposals for the time being. There is a scheme before the Government.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

A lump allotment is made; so that when there is a proposal to reorganise the department, there may be money when it is actually organised.

Mr C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA (*Landlords*).

Then it is for the Government to move for Supplementary Grants. Are we to sanction this lump provision, without knowing what it is?

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

I shall try to explain the allotment, Sir. The lump provision of Rs. 2,000 is made up in this way :— Bonus at the rate of about Rs. 30 each for 5 Reporters. We have not engaged, as in Travancore, any permanent reporters for the Legislative Council. In Travancore, you will find there is one English Shorthand

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Reporter in the scale of Rs. 80—100 ; two, each in the scale of Rs. 60—80 three Reporters, each on Rs. 40—70 scale ; and one Malayalam Shorthand Reporter on a scale of Rs. 25—50. That is, the total cost of reporting in Travancore comes to about Rs. 4,140 a year. How are we going to manage out here? With Rs. 600 as bonus. I think that is cheap enough. As to whether it would be possible for these to make a fair report of the speeches delivered here, it is more than what I can say. The next item is the pay of two peons. Personally, I may tell you that I am not enamoured with the irritating encumbrance of peons; but an office has to be run ; and decency requires that there must be some persons to attend on you. There is, then, one masapady and one sweeper to be paid for. All these are, you will admit, necessary. I forgot to refer to the T A. for Shorthand Reporters. These come from Trichur, Kunnamkulam and Cranganur. Altogether, these several items come to about Rs. 1,748. That is how this lump sum of Rs. 2,000 will be spent. I can assure the member from Trichur that not a pie will be spent for the revision of the "Council Manual " (*Laughter*).

(One member said "Thanks ").

That member, Sir, will have small cause to thank me, when I tell him that this clear and concise Manual does not require any revision. It follows the Manuals of the Imperial and Provincial Councils, those of the Councils of Mysore, and particularly, of Travancore, so that it can keep its countenance in the company of these.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Hear. Hear.

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA (*Landlords*).

Are the Secretary and the Deputy President given leave allowance ?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulankunnattuavu*).

It is not a votable matter.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

Besides the Secretary and the Deputy President, there are clerks attached to my office. Rs. 69 cannot, I

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

believe, be the leave allowance of the Secretary or of the Deputy President. If it is, they would rather go without it than accept this paltry sum.

Mr. M. KRISHNA MENON (*Vyttila*).

How does it become non-votable?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

The pay of the Secretary and the pay of the Deputy President are also non-votable. That Rs. 69 must be taken as the leave allowance for these two officers.

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA (*Landlords*).

There is no leave allowance for the Deputy President.

Mr. C. A. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

It is 5 per cent of the pay. In the case of the monthly pay, it is taken as leave allowance for budget purposes.

DIWAN BAHADUR Dr. V. VERGHESE (*Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer*).

I think it may or may not be utilised. It is simply put down there. That is all.

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA (*Landlords*).

If there is no necessity, it need not be there.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Five per cent is provided for leave allowance, to be on the safe side.

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA (*Landlords*).

If there is no necessity for five per cent, why should that be provided?

President.— The question is whether there is any necessity for any leave allowance to be given to the Legislative Council Secretary.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Is he not entitled to any privilege leave?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. KRISHNA MENON (*Vyttila*).

The Secretary said "No."

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

If, in the usual course of things, the Legislative Council Secretary is entitled to it, then, this leave allowance must be provided.

President.— How do the rules stand with regard to this ?

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

Leave for one month may be given for 11 months of work. This is the rule for all full-timed officials.

President — Is he also entitled to leave ?

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

Sir, he is not a full-timed officer.

Mr. M. KRISHNA MENON (*Vyttila*).

Is the Sirkar Vakil a full-timed officer ?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

He is entitled to pension.

Mr. M. KRISHNA MENON (*Vyttila*).

Who said that the Secretary is not entitled to pension ?

President. — The appointment is only temporary.

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA (*Landlords*).

It is not against the amount that we protest. There is no necessity for it to be there.

President.— That point was not considered, when it was included in the budget. We will look into the matter.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON (*Cranganur*).

The first motion, Sir, stands tabled in my name. In this connection, I am satisfied with the explanation given by the Government member, regarding the nature of the revision. But there is another fact also that I wish to emphasise in this connection. Sir, if there is a sufficient establishment provided for the Legislative Council now, the House has a right to know why so many questions of the members remain unanswered ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.— It is not the establishment of the Legislative Council that prepares answers. It is the Heads of Departments that prepare answers.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON (*Cranganur*).

Are we to take it that the Heads of Departments are not sending answers, or that they have not been properly prepared by the Council staff for presentation to the House?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

This is the opportunity to raise the question. From to-morrow forwards, no question can be asked, as the demand will be passed to-day. I take this opportunity to elicit an answer from the Government to know whether the delay was caused by other agencies or by the establishment that is at work here.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON (*Cranganur*).

We want an explanation why and where the delay is. That is a guide for sending questions for future sessions.

President.— Some questions have not been answered.

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

Almost all replies have been received from Heads of Departments, and Government had not sufficient time to prepare them for presentation to the Council, in time.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON (*Cranganur*).

Permission may be given to withdraw the motion.

The motion was withdrawn with the leave of the Council.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

A point of order, Sir. Rule 9 of the Legislative Council Rules runs as follows:—"A member who wishes to ask a question shall give notice in writing to the Secretary at least 12 clear days before the date fixed for the meeting at which he desires to put the question, and shall, together with the notice, submit a copy of the question which he wishes to ask.

"Provided that the President may allow a question to be put with shorter notice than 12 days, and may, in

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

any case, require longer notice or may extend the time for answering a question."

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Provided the President shall have notice.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

If the President is not informed, may we know whether the question would remain unanswered? My point is this: when a question is put, unless the President thinks that longer notice is required for a particular question to be answered by the department concerned, and that an extension of time is necessary, the question or questions must be answered in the House, and the department cannot take shelter under the convenient plea of want of notice and say that they have not got ready the answers.

President.—It was not said by any of the Heads of Departments that longer notice is necessary.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

Therefore, all questions are bound to be answered. They have not asked for an extension of time. That is the point of order. All questions have to be answered.

President.—The delay is in preparing the answers for publication. It is unavoidable.

Dr. A. G MENON (*Tattamangalam*).

According to the rules that have been framed, we are bound to give them sufficient notice. That is 15 days.

President.—But you must understand that we are new to this form of Government. Next time, you will see that these rules will be strictly followed.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Can we have an idea of the number of questions remaining unanswered?

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

About a hundred.

Dr. A. G. MENON (*Tattamangalam*).

If the meeting is adjourned, have we not to send up our questions again?

President.—You will have to submit them again, if the session is prorogued.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VATAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

May I know whether the questions asked with reference to each department are arranged?

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

Our arrangement is not in the serial order in which they are received.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN (*Ezhuva South*).

In some departments, some questions are answered, while others are not. They must answer all the questions.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

If they have got them, they are bound to give the answers here. The President sits to judge between the two sections.

President.—Yes. The next motion is in the name of Mr. K. T. Mathew, that is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for revision of establishment, &c.

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VADAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

Sir, I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for lump provision for revision of the Legislative Council establishment. As the necessity for this amount has been explained, my motion, to some Hon'ble Members, may seem to be superfluous. But my object in bringing forward this motion is to point out the defects in the working of the Council Regulation, and to request the Government to follow a liberal and generous policy, in order to give full effect to His Highness' earnest desire to associate His Highness' "people in an increasing measure with the Government of the State." As desired by His Highness, the official and non-official members of this House, I need not point out, should work in complete unison with "mutual trust, sympathy and co-operation". But, at the same time, I may add that every effort should be made to increase the powers of this House by setting conventions and precedents not antagonistic to the sections in the Regulation. It should also be the policy of the Government to treat the chosen representatives of the people here in no way inferior to official members, who are the servants of the public—to submit to this House all important questions and not to interfere, as far as possible, with the considered opinion of this House.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

The General Election took place early in January; and it is after the lapse of more than six months that we have now gathered here to transact some business. No explanation has been given for this long delay to summon the Council. In Pudukotta, a few weeks after the Inaugural Session, the Council was summoned. But the most regrettable matter is that, during the period which intervened between the General Election and this session of the Council, many important measures were taken by the Government, and, regarding these measures, the Council was not given an opportunity to express its opinion. To cite an instance: the Government should have consulted this House before launching on such a costly scheme as the raising of the Maharaja's College to a First Grade one Let us, however, hope that, in the future, the Government will consult this House on all important matters and pay weight and respect to its decision. To make this Council sufficiently useful, there should be meetings, at least, as frequent as in Travancore.

President.— Now there are two sessions, the Budget Session and the Legislative Session.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

There will be two sessions and four meetings. That is the rule in Travancore. We propose to follow that.

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VADAKKOT (*Kunnamklam*).

In the "Council Manual", Appendix 2, the first rule reads that "printed copies of the questions and answers, to be put and given at a meeting of the Council, shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat." I respectfully submit that this short time of 15 minutes is not sufficient to read the answers printed and to be ready for asking supplementary questions. In the Madras Legislative Council, the printed copies will be placed on the table an hour before the President takes his seat. The same rule is followed in the Pudukotta Legislative Council. We are not ignorant of the fact that, in Travancore, the time is limited, as is here, to 15 minutes; but it is unwise to follow the restrictions and mistakes of another Government, especially when we have

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

opportunities to select the best, and when His Gracious Highness has been pleased to allow for this Council, proportionately, more elected members than Travancore, and has, in many other ways also, allowed us to march in advance of the Sister State in political reforms. Let us loyally follow the example set by His Gracious Highness and, instead of remaining blind imitators of Travancore, strive hard to go ahead of her. In this connection, I should like to draw the attention of this House to the pertinent remark of Sir A. R. Banerji, the President of the Mysore Legislative Council, published on page 14 of the official report of the Mysore Council Proceedings: "As a matter of fact, the practice in British India is that the answers are placed in the hands of the non-official members, some time before the Council meets, so as to enable the members to ask supplementary questions. To-day, as the answers have not been placed sufficiently early, in your hands, the questions and answers may be actually read." This shows how carefully the rights and privileges of non-official members there are preserved, and how opportunities are given to them to make the best use of their Legislative Council.

Unlike in Travancore and here, supplementary questions can be put in the Madras Legislative Council by the member who submitted the question and also by any other member; and this right is not solely confined to the members in the Presidency Legislative Council. Following Madras, Mysore has given this right to the members of its Legislative Council. The Coorg Legislative Council members also enjoy this right. In Pudukkotta also, this right has been conferred upon the Council members. In view of these facts, I respectfully request you to modify our rule governing supplementary questions.

I may point out that the Preliminary Budget was sent to us only a week before the Council met. We, the non-official members, desire to have it a few more days earlier. In Travancore, the general discussion of the budget will begin only two days after the Financial Statement has been submitted to the House, and this gives the members sufficient time to study the budget closely, in view of the observations made by the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Finance Member. But this two days' interval was not given to us, this time. We hope, Sir, in future, the Financial Statement will be submitted two days before the general discussion.

I regret to say that a satisfactory number of questions are not now being answered, everyday. I understand that questions sent by many of the Hon'ble Members have not yet been answered. To speak from personal experience, I had submitted some 30 questions, but none of them has yet been answered.

President.—Not one of them appeared?

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VATAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*):

No, Sir. None of them.

With your permission, Sir, I should say a word about the evasive and vague answers supplied. The object of putting questions is not to embarrass the Government but to elicit information, to enlighten the Government on what is happening outside and, in some cases, inside the four walls of office rooms, and to afford the Government an opportunity to re-examine its position. We cannot congratulate the Government for answering questions in such an evasive manner as to leave the questioner as unenlightened as before. When questions are put, the Government should avail itself of the opportunity to fully explain its position.

The Legislative Council Library rules do not provide for sending books to mofussil members and so, the Library is not likely to prove of any use to them. We request you, Sir, to make the necessary arrangements for rendering the Library more useful to all the members.

President.—What do they do in Travancore?

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VADAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*):

There was a discussion about that in the Travancore Council.

Mr T. K. KRISHNA MENON (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

Will the Hon'ble Member please supply the reference?

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VADAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

Sorry, I am unable to do so, at present. I shall do it later.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Section 3 (b), Standing Orders, says that ' the Secretary shall send to every member a statement of the business to be transacted at each meeting so as to reach his permanent address at least three clear days before the date of each session.'' I desire to point out that this was not done, and that the failure to follow this rule has caused much inconvenience and difficulty.

To say further, the resolutions submitted to this House were not in the ballotted order. This is a violation of the rules provided under the Standing Orders. Section 71 lays down that even the President has no power to set aside the Regulation, the Rules or the Standing Orders. I desire to add that the explanation given for not following the ballotted order was very unsatisfactory and disappointing; and it seriously reflects upon the working of the departments. The explanation was that the Departmental Heads were not ready with their replies. I had submitted my resolutions about three months before the meeting of the Council; and yet the Government had no time to be ready for discussing the resolutions! Sir, we enter our strong protest against this way of doing business. Need I point out that the refusal to adhere to the ballotted order of resolutions would very largely curtail the powers of this House?

Lastly, I beg permission to draw attention to an important matter, namely privilege of speech. Those, who have read the history of the growth of Parliament in Great Britain and the privileges of its members, know fully well the importance of the privilege of freedom from arrest. The time at my disposal does not allow me to dilate on these subjects. The Government of India Act, 1919, confers certain privileges on the members of the Central and Provincial Legislatures. Sub-section (8) of Section 72 of the Act provides that "Subject to the rules and Standing Orders affecting the Council, there shall be freedom of speech in the Governor's Legislative Councils. No person shall be liable to any proceedings in any Court, by reason of his speech or vote in any such Council". Again, Sub-section (7) of Section 67 of the Government

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of India Act ordains, "Subject to the Rules and Standing Orders affecting the Chamber, there shall be freedom of speech in both Chambers of the Indian Legislature. No persons shall be liable to any proceedings in any court, by reason of his speech or vote in either Chamber—or by reason of anything contained in an official report of the proceedings of either Chamber." Both the sub-sections, above referred to, relate to the right of freedom of speech in the Central as well as the Provincial Legislatures. Legislatures in Indian States also have demanded this privilege. The following resolution was allowed to be discussed. in the Mysore Legislative Council:--"That this Council recommends to the Government that the Government may be pleased to take early steps to make adequate provisions in the Regulations relating to the Mysore Legislative Council and the Repesentative Assembly, affirming that there shall be freedom of speech in both the Bodies of the Mysore Constitution; and that no person shall be liable to any proceeding in any court by reason of his speech or vote in either Body or by reason of anything contained in any official report of the proceeding of either Body." We, the representatives of the people assembled in this House, respectfully request you, Sir, to confer fully this privilege of speech upon the members of this House.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

I remind you, Sir, that this Honb'le Member has been addressing the House for more than 20 minutes.

President —It is only a token motion. Your points have been urged. Do you withdraw the motion?

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VATAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

Yes, Sir.

The motion was withdrawn with leave.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

May I know Sir, whether there is no freedom of speech here?

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA (*Landlords*).

We had too much of freedom here.

President.—Have I not given you full freedom to put forth your views?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

The member was referring to the passing of a rule conferring this privilege. He wants to have it as of right.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

We have license of speech here.

I believe, in the British Provincial Councils, the questions are really read by the questioners and the answers read by the Departmental Heads. Whether it is the practice in Travancore I do not know. But we would like to have it in a more practical form and not as a pantomine. In the Parliament, it decidedly is. Only starred questions are read.

Dr. A. G. MENON (*Tattamangalam*).

All the members ask supplementary questions. Here, even the questioner is not allowed to ask more than a question.

President.—That also deserves to be considered.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattuavu*).

That is only a question of interpretation. I do not press my motion. I have tabled a resolution, in connection with the permanent habitation for the Legislative Council. If it does not come in this time, I wish to move it in the next session. It is not an urgent matter at all.

The motion was permitted to be withdrawn.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

The purpose of my motion has been served. I beg to withdraw it.

The Council allowed the motion to be withdrawn.

Motion No. 45.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,08,300 under General Administration by Rs. 100.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

Sir, I move a reduction of Rs. 100 from the total allotment of Rs. 1,08,300 under General Administration. In doing so, may I congratulate the Government on being able to keep down expenses under "General Administration" during the last few years. There have been times, for example in 1096, when the ex-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

penses under "General Administration" were very great. The Government, therefore, deserves congratulation. But there are several other matters on which the General Administration has to be criticised, and my object in bringing this token motion is to catalogue the directions in which we have to effect improvements in the General Administration. Hitherto, we have been dealing with the limbs. Now, we go to the head. The General Administration is the nerve-centre from which must radiate energy and efficiency into every part of the State. If there are any defects in the working of the several departments of the State, I say the General Administration is directly or indirectly responsible for it. If we want efficiency to be maintained in the various departments, we must first make the General Administration itself efficient. If we find inefficiency in the working of some departments of the State, then, certainly, there is something very wrong with the General Administration. I am sorry, Sir, that those whose actions we have criticised, those who were responsible for the administration of the State, during the last few years, are not here, to answer these criticisms. But I am at the same time glad that now we have one at the helm who can perceive the faults of his predecessors and who will be prepared to utilise that knowledge in shaping his policy in the future.

President.— Is not "Faults" too strong a word?

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

I withdraw the word, Sir. I will say mistakes. There are several matters, which could legitimately be discussed under General Administration. Now, Sir, the General Administration is responsible for shaping the policy of all departments. We have been saying here that there is waste in this or that department, that the Tramway is unnecessary, that the Forest Department is spending too much, and so on. All this should be brought home to the General Administration. If the General Administration had acted properly and looked to the efficient management of the several departments, certainly, we would not have been in the unhappy position in which we now find ourselves. Sir, the Hon'ble Member for Mulakunnattukavu remarked, the other day, in discussing the budget, that almost every

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Diwan made it a hobby to catch hold of one department or another for re-organisation. After a series of such re-organisations, we find the State spending lakhs and lakhs on salaries and finding it impossible to present a balanced budget. If the General Administration had taken care to see that a definite policy is followed in effecting re-organisations, there would not have been so much difference between the salary of one Head of the Department and that of another. There is the complaint heard almost from every department that clerks are under-paid. Considerable differences exist in the scales of clerks in different departments. We hear that the Village Officers are under-paid. If the General Administration were careful, I say, these great differences in the matter of salaries would not have arisen.

Now, Sir, I refer to a matter for which your predecessor is responsible, that is the assignment of *poramboke*s near temples to the Devaswams to which the temples belong. Over this, people at large are very much agitated.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON (*Cranganur*):

Are we in order, Sir, when we discuss Devaswam questions?

President.— He is not speaking of Devaswam *poramboke lands*. He is criticising the policy of the Administration.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*):

I don't want an inch of ground from the Devaswams. Let more be added to these charitable and divine institutions. But, Sir, in transferring these *poramboke* lands to the control of these Devaswams, I say that the Government has not been following a sound policy.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*):

Can the Hon'ble Member give specific instances?

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*):

There are several instances in the State. For example, the Thekkinkad Maidan at Trichur.

Mr. V. K. KOCHUNNI MENON (*Ernakulam*):

It was Devaswam *poramboke*.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*):

It was not.

Mr C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*):

In one *Kandezhuttu*, it was wrongly registered as belonging to the Government.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

Wrongly or rightly, it is immaterial.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

In four *Kandezhuthus* it was registered as Devaswam. This question will arise in the course of the discussion.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

I had sent up a question for a statement showing the areas that had, under this order, been transferred to Devaswams. Unluckily the question was not answered. Sir, there has been a good deal of heart-burning among the people over this matter. We are passing through times when all around we find agitation for greater rights. This is the time for gradually establishing rights. I would particularly mention the cause of the depressed classes. While definite forward steps have to be taken to bestow on them all freedom of movement, the order in question has curtailed the little that they had.

Sir, the other day I referred to a Committee appointed during the administration of Mr. Bhore to report upon communications. That Committee made a report suggesting certain land and water communications, which had to be taken up one after another. I do not think their suggestions were followed for long. In spending money over communications, the Government should have a definite policy. The Committee, referred to before, was appointed with the idea that in course of time we should have in this State a net-work of land and water routes. I would urge upon the member for the P. W. D. the advisability of following the suggestions of the Committee.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

I was a member of the Committee. Most of the recommendations have been carried out.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

I am very glad to hear it; and if there remain any which has not been attended to, I hope the member for P. W. D. will give it the first chance.

Sir, we have had occasion to refer here to the several schemes undertaken by the Government. The Potteries and Tanneries are standing instances of ventures which the Government had no business to lay its hands on. We have been terrible losers by that. Who,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

I ask, is responsibie for the loss? The General Administration.

If the General Administration had carefully considered the schemes, if they had obtained expert advice I believe we would never have been losers in respect of the Tramway, the Tanneries and the Potteries.

President.—What is past is past.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

History is written for us to shape the future by studying the past.

Again, Sir, there is a lot of heart-burning among the people in the matter of appointments. I know it is not a very pleasant matter to refer to here, and I would have been glad to avoid it. But we read so much in the newspapers about this matter that I thought that ventilating the grievances here would be far better than fostering them by silence. Several questions have been sent up by the members, bearing on recruitment of the services, promotions therein, and the proportion kept up from the various classes and creeds in this State. A few of these have been answered, and the information elicited will certainly cause disappointment to the great majority of the people. Sir, I would urge upon the Government the necessity to adopt for the future a policy of giving, as far as possible, preference in the matter of appointment to classes which are meagrely, or not at all, represented in the State Service, of course due care and attention being had to efficiency. Sir, I deal with this matter not simply because all classes are anxious to get into Government service, but a large amount of our revenues is spent on our services. Twenty-two lakhs, approximately, go for salaries, 6 lakhs for allowances and Rs. 1,40,000 for pension. If one caste or one creed or a few castes or creeds are allowed to monopolise the services and draw this large amount, then, certainly, it is a matter for loud complaint for the others.

In this connection, there is another matter I have to refer to, a most delicate one. I would only just call the attention of the House to that. In making appointments in this State, it is not a sound policy to follow to appoint in the departments of the State persons who are very nearly related to the administrative or

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Departmental Heads. That would go against the efficiency of the service and against proper control over the officers that are appointed. (*Hear, hear.*) That is the general opinion. Indeed, I have the greatest respect for those appointed in the past. They are very loyal and staunch supporters of the Government. They are as good Cochinites as any in this House or outside.

President.—Should relationship be a disqualification ?

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

Certainly not.

One more point and I close. We have had occasion to refer to the Leper Asylum buildings at Anappara. Is not our General Administration responsible for this scheme? We had a Leper Asylum; we desired to have one at Anappara ; buildings were put up at a great cost, and then the idea was abandoned. I hope it is not like the partition of Bengal "a settled fact ". Sir, from the answers furnished to the questions sent up by Mr. A. B. Salem regarding the Anappara Leper Asylum, we understand that objections were raised to locating the Asylum there.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

I rise to a point of order. I ask whether a member can refer to another member as Mr. so and so.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*),

I am sorry. I am referring to the member for the Jews. Sir, in the answers supplied to this House on the first day, we find that the reason for abandoning the idea of the Anappara Leper Asylum was that there was opposition from the people. It is also clear therefrom that, strangely enough, no expert examined the scheme before it was abandoned.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

May I know whether the member has exceded the time limit ?

President. I will allow one or two minutes.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

The Anappara Leper Asylum was abandoned without making due enquiries. Captain A. R. Puduval, whose opinion alone is available, does not definitely say that the Leper Asylum at Anappara would affect

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the Trichur Town. It seems clear to me that no case has been made out for abandoning the scheme. Therefore, I would request the Government to go into the matter once again and take expert opinion, before the scheme is finally given up.

Then, there is the question of the First Grade College. It is coming under Education, and I shall discuss the matter in that connection. I withdraw the motion.

Mr. Ouseph's motion was permitted to be withdrawn. The votable allotment for General Administration was then passed without any cut.

DEMAND XIV.—Accounts and Finance—Rs. ·37 lakh.

Motion Nos. 46 and 47.

Mr. S. F. NUNEZ (*Anglo-Indians*).

To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,800 for the pay of the 2nd Assistant Comptroller.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 37,400 for Accounts and Finance by Rs. 10

Mr K. KRISHNA PISHARODI (*Comptroller of Accounts and Finance Member*).

Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 32,246 under Accounts and Finance.

The details of the expenditure are given in the budget itself. There is an item, temporary establishment, which may, perhaps, require some explanation. An amount of Rs. 181 is provided as pay, for the month of Karkadagam, of the temporary establishment staff, entertained for the audit of the Tirumala Devaswam accounts. Their work will be over by the end of Karkadagam, and their pay has to be given in Chingam. All the other items are more or less based on the previous year's figures. There is no large extra expenditure in any way.

President —The total works out to Rs. 37,391. The previous year's revised estimate is Rs. 38,441.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

There is no material alteration.

Mr. S. F. NUNEZ (*Anglo-Indians*).

Sir, I beg to move a cut of Rs. 1,800 from the pay of the second Assistant Comptroller. I say, at the very

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